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PATENT

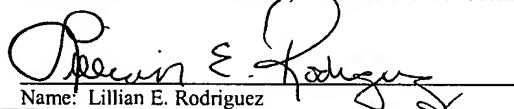
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: VAN DEN BERG, Eduardo-Alexander  
Examiner: to be assigned  
Serial No. 10/541,077  
Group Art Unit: to be assigned  
Filed: June 29, 2005  
Docket No. 72998-013000  
Title: *Dispensing Device and Dispensing Assembly for Flower Vases, Flower Vase and Method for Placing Flowers Into a Vase*

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

Date of Mailing: December 29, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated, and addressed to MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

  
Name: Lillian E. Rodriguez

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [37 C.F.R. § 1.56]**

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of any cited foreign documents. Copies of the U.S. references are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;

- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) above of this section, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. The fee for filing an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is \$180.00.

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

☐ b. A petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement; and

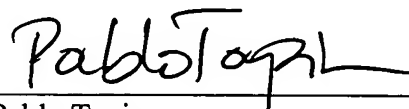
☐ c. The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Applicant would appreciate the examiner initialing and signing a copy of attached Form PTO-SB08 indicating that he or she considered the information and made the information of record.

If the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the PTO determines that an extension or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

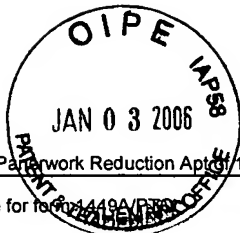
Respectfully submitted,



Pablo Tapia  
Reg. No. 52,275

Date: December 29, 2005

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1419A (PTO)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/541,077
Filing Date	June 29, 2005
First Named Inventor	VAN DEN BERG, Eduardo-Alexander
Art Unit	(unassigned)
Examiner Name	(unassigned)
Attorney Docket Number	72998-013000

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 4,635,816	01-13-1987	Mikkelsen	abstract, figures 1, 2
		US- 3,053,599	05/21/1969	Mortara	whole document
		US- 1,820,345	08/25/1931	Cherry	page 2, line 108-line 113; figures page 2, line 86 - line 95
		US-			
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number" <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code" <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		GB 1 152 414 A	05/21/1969	American Can Company	page 6, line 7-line 13; claims 1,2; figures 1-3	
		NL 99 491 C	10/16/1961	Machinefabriek	whole document	
		GB 2 237 270 A	05/01/1991	The Polytechnic of Wales	page 1, paragraph 2; figures	
		WO 99/39615 A	08/12/1999	Catalyst Developments (UK) Limited	application page 4, line 2; claim 6; figure 1	

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.